IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

APPLICANT(s):	D. Salgado et al.		
SERIAL NO.:	09/448,804	ART UNIT:	2164
FILING DATE:	11/24/1999	EXAMINER:	S. Pannala
TITLE:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT YEARS IN A MULTIPLE PLATFORM ELECTRONIC REPROGRAPHICS SYSTEM		
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:	D/99253; 690-008859-US (PAR)		

Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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APPELLANTS' BRIEF

This is an appeal from the final rejection of the claims in the above-identified application. A Notice of Appeal was mailed on March 28, 2006.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this Appeal is Xerox Corporation.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences regarding this application.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-21 have been finally rejected.

The claims on appeal are 1-21.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Since the final rejection dated September 28, 2005 an Amendment After Final was filed on January 12, 2006. That amendment was entered as reflected in the advisory action mailed March 7, 2006 (Paper No. 01302006).

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 1 recites a multiple platform architecture data reporting system for managing attribute data. The system, embodied on a computer readable medium, includes a system manager (22) and a user interface (27) (Fig. 2). The system manager (22) is adapted to collect attribute data including copyright data pertaining to software from multiple platforms (p. 4, lines 5-23), recognize the copyright data in the attribute data and process the copyright data into a list of copyright data for the system (p.5, line 12 to p. 6, line 10). The user interface is connected to the system manager for displaying the collected attribute data in the list to a user (p. 5, lines 5-11; p. 6, lines 1-3).

Claim 3 recites a method for managing attribute data in a multiple platform architecture. The method includes polling at least two platforms for attribute data, collecting the attribute data from the at least two platforms in response to the step of polling and displaying the collected attribute data on a user display (p. 5, line 12 – p. 6, line 10).

Claim 12 recites a software copyright information managing system for managing software copyright data in a multiple platform electronic architecture (See Figs. 2-5). The system includes a system controller for collecting the software copyright data from multiple platforms (p. 5, lines 12-22) and a user interface connected to the system controller for displaying the software copyright data from the memory to a user (p. 5, lines 5-11; p. 6, lines 17-19).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

1. Whether claims 3-6 and 8-11 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakagawa et al. (USPA Pub. 2003/0159065) ("Nakagawa").

2. Whether claims 1-2, 7 and 12-17 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nakagawa in view of "Strategy for Collecting Software Inventory Information Across a Local Area Network", IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, 12/1994 (the "IBM Disclosure").

VII. ARGUMENT

A. 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

1. Claim 3

Claim 3 is not anticipated by Nakagawa under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) because Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest managing attribute date in a multiple platform architecture, polling at least two platforms for attribute data or displaying the collected attribute data to a user.

In order for a reference to anticipate a claim, each feature of the claim must be expressly or inherently taught by the reference. A *prima facie* case of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) requires that **each and every element** of Applicant's claims be taught by the reference (M.P.E.P §2131). Although "identity of terminology" is not required, the **"identical invention"** must be shown in **"as complete detail as is contained in the claim."** It is submitted that, for the reasons stated herein Nakagawa does not and cannot disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in Applicant's claims.

According to Applicant's claim 3, the "system" polls at least two platforms for attribute data, collects attribute data from the at least two platforms and displays list of the collected attribute data to a user. These features are not disclosed or suggested by Nakagawa.

First, Applicant's claims are directed to "managing attribute data" in a **"multiple platform architecture"**. A multiple **platform** architecture" as defined and claimed by Applicant includes a platform that has its own "**processor and software.**" (See e.g. page 1, lines 13-15 of Applicant's specification). Each "**platform**" manages and maintains its own **software copyright** information.

Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest managing attribute data in a "multiple **platform** architecture." Rather, Nakagawa teaches inspecting the copyright of digital data provided on a network using a hyperlink for setting a reference path (see e.g. Abstract). What Nakagawa is doing is carrying out the inspection of a copyright with respect to a "plurality of **HTML documents**." [0050]. An **HTML document** is **NOT** a "**platform**" that has its own processor and software, as is described and claimed by Applicant. For example, referring to page 4, lines 5-14 of Applicant's specification, examples of the types of systems that Applicant's management system is generally intended to be used for are described (the examples include managing software copyright information and other software attribute data in document processing apparatus such as e.g. a copier, a facsimile machine, a computer printer, a scanner, or a multifunction device).

Additionally, it certainly cannot be said that "multiple URLs" are the equivalent of the "multiple platforms" described and claimed by Applicant. Nakagawa is merely extracting and comparing an "image" (digital data) that comprises the "copyright information" for an "original image" (see FIG. 4 and paragraph [0048].) This is done to verify whether the "image is one for which one holds the copyright". [0048]. Nakagawa is merely verifying that an "original image", for which a copyright is held, is not altered. Nakagawa is not verifying the copyright for software on a platform as recited in Applicant's claims. Thus, contrary to the Examiner's argument, the "multiple URLs" of Nakagawa are not the equivalent of the "multiple platforms" described and claimed by Applicant.

Claim 3 further recites **"polling"** the at least "two" platforms for attribute data. Nakagawa does not, either explicitly or inherently, teach such a concept.

"Polling" is generally used to refer to making continuous requests for data from another device. One definition of "polling", a copy of which is attached hereto under the Evidence Appendix, recites that "in a master/slave scenario, the master queries each

slave device in turn as to whether it has any data to transmit. If the slave answers yes then the device is permitted to transmit its data. If the slave answers no then the master moves on and polls the next slave device. The process is repeated continuously." (www.webopedia.com/TERM/p/polling.html, definition No. 1). Polling can also involve making "continuous requests for data from another device. For example, modems that support polling can call another system and request data." (www.webopedia.com/TERM/p/polling.html, definition No. 2). Nakagawa does not provide any such teaching or disclosure.

FIG. 1 of Nakagawa only shows a relationship between a client (20) and a www server (10). Nakagawa does not teach any type of "polling". Paragraph [0050] of Nakagawa states that the automatic inspection of copyright is carried out with respect to a "plurality of HTML documents." A "plurality" of "documents" is certainly not the same as, and does not at all imply or relate to, the "concept" of "polling" at least one "platform".

Paragraph [0050] of Nakagawa merely states that the browser (22) provides an operating environment for a user carrying out "operation of the HTML document." This, in essence, means opening the **web page**. As will be understood by one of skill in the art, when one opens a web page, one is carrying out the operation of the underlying HTML document. For example, in Nakagawa, FIG. 3 is an example of the diagram of a home page (Internet page) that represents or is displayed by the HTML document shown in FIG. 2 [0047 & 0050]. The display of a **web page** is not the same as "polling" at least one "**platform**" for attribute data as is recited in Applicant's claims.

Claim 3 of Applicant's claims also recites "displaying the collected attribute data on a user display". There is absolutely no disclosure in Nakagawa related to "displaying" collected attribute data related to the "HTML document" on a display.

Paragraph [0050] of Nakagawa merely states that the browser (22) allows the user to carry out "operation of the HTML document." With reference to FIG. 3, this essentially means carrying out "displaying" the home page and the information and links contained therein. There is no disclosure in Nakagawa that any "copyright data" is displayed. FIG. 3 is the illustration of a single home page. There is no copyright data displayed in FIG. 3. It is not the "operation" of the home page referred to in FIG. 3 of Nakagawa to display "copyright data." In fact, there is simply no disclosure in Nakagawa related to displaying the copyright data. Rather, Nakagawa only speaks to "inspection" of the copyright with respect to "HTML documents." The "inspection" does not include any "display" of the copyright data. (See e.g. [0054-0059]).

It is also noted that Nakagawa relies on an attribute "inspection" process. For example, the "taken out copyright information and the copyright information to be inspected" are compared. [0069]. Nakagawa does not process attribute or copyright data into a "list" as is claimed by Applicant and Nakagawa certainly does not discuss displaying the attribute or copyright data as is claimed by Applicant. Rather, the "URL" for the digital data being the object of inspection is output to the output device. [0073]. This is not the same as the attribute or copyright data claimed by Applicant.

Nakagawa only "reads" and "matches" attribute data of the HTML document (see FIG. 8). FIG. 3 is the illustration of the home page of the HTML document of FIG. 2. There is no copyright data displayed in FIG. 3. It is not the "operation" of the home page referred to in FIG. 3 of Nakagawa to display attribute or copyright data. In fact, there is simply no disclosure in Nakagawa related to displaying the attribute or copyright data. Rather, Nakagawa only speaks to "inspection" of the copyright with respect to "HTML documents." The "inspection" does not include any "display" of the attribute or copyright data. (See e.g. [0054-0059]. Nakagawa does not, and discloses no reason to, collect or display attribute data as is claimed by Applicant.

It is respectfully submitted that the features recited by Applicant in the claims are not being taught by Nakagawa. The Examiner has not shown how an "HTML document" equates to a "platform" as recited and claimed by Applicant, or how Nakagawa collects attribute data and displays the attribute data, let alone copyright data.

Thus, since Nakagawa does not disclose, either explicitly or inherently each and every feature recited in Applicant's claim 3, claim 3 cannot be anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claims 4-11 should be allowable at least by reason of their respective dependencies.

2. Claim 4

Claim 4 recites "automatically polling the at least two platforms during power on of at least one of the at least two platforms". Nakagawa does not anticipate claim 4. As noted above, Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest "**polling**" as that term is used and claimed by Applicant. Furthermore, Nakagawa does not make any disclosure or suggestion related to "**automatically polling**" the platforms during "**power on**" of one of the platforms. It is respectfully submitted that one cannot "power on" an HTML document as one can a "platform" as that term is described by Applicant. Nakagawa does not in any way make any disclosure or teaching related to the concept of Applicant's claim 4. Paragraphs [0050] and [0062] of Nakagawa, used by the Examiner to support this particular rejection, do not provide any teaching in this regard.

Paragraph [0050] relates to inspecting the copyright of "HTML documents". As noted previously, there is no relationship between an "HTML document" and a "platform" as is claimed by Applicant. Nakagawa does not diclose or suggest automatic polling during power on, as claimed by Applicant.

Paragraph [0062], which refers to an HTML document in FIG. 2, and an attribute shown in FIG. 5, describes how the attribute of digital data used in the acquired HTML document is acquired. There is absolutely nothing in these paragraphs, or anywhere else in Nakagawa, that even remotely discusses or teaches "automatic polling" during "power on" of at least one of the platforms. Therefore, claim 4 is patentable.

3. Claim 5

Claim 5 recites "polling at least one of the at least two platforms when polling is initiated by a user request". Claim 5 is not anticipated by Nakagawa. Nakagawa does not disclose polling for attribute data initiated by a user request. Nakagawa only discloses recursively activating the copyright inspection device while tracing the hyperlink [0011]. Paragraph [0049] of Nakagawa talks about updating the **HTML document** registered in the database in response to a request from the client. There is simply no reference here, either express or implied, related to inspecting the copyright data. Updating the HTML document is not the same as **"polling"** for attribute data as is claimed by Applicant. Thus, claim 5 is patentable.

4. Claim 6

Claim 6 is not anticipated because Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest collecting attribute data in response to "polling", let alone collecting "copyright" information, for the reasons discussed above. Thus, claim 6 should be allowable.

5. Claim 8

Claim 8 recites "storing the attribute data in non-volatile memory". Claim 8 is not anticipated by Nakagawa. Nakagawa does not disclose that "attribute data" is stored as claimed by Applicant. The "database 12" of Nakagawa stores "**documents**" described by "**HTML**." [0047]. Nothing in Nakagawa discusses storing "copyright" or "attribute"

data as claimed by Applicant. Paragraph [0050] merely describes "inspection" of copyright, not "storing" the copyright. Paragraph [0062] talks about "acquiring" images, not "storing" as claimed by Applicant. Thus, this claim cannot be anticipated.

6. Claim 9

Claim 9 recites "displaying the attribute data collected from the at least two platforms." Nakagawa does not anticipate claim 9. There is nothing in Nakagawa that discloses the "display" of the attribute or copyright data. Contrary to the Examiner's argument, paragraph [0050] makes no reference to the display of copyright data, only the inspection a plurality of HTML documents. The attribute recording file (26) is not a display. FIG. 5 merely illustrates, for explanation purposes, a data file descriptor, a size and a last updated date [0040]. Therefore, claim 9 is patentable.

7. Claim 10

Claim 10 recites "manually displaying the attribute data collected from the at least two platforms". Claim 10 is not anticipated by Nakagawa because Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest any display of attribute data. Paragraph [0011] only relates to "inspection", not display. Paragraph [0049] relates to updating the HTML document and makes no reference to "displaying" the attribute data. Thus, claim 10 is not anticipated.

8. Claim 11

Claim 11 recites "displaying only non-copyright attribute data collected from the at least two platforms". Claim 11 is not anticipated because Nakagawa makes no disclosure related to the display of "non-copyright" attribute data as described and claimed by Applicant. Paragraph [0063] merely describes reading an attribute and is silent as to any display of the attribute data. Thus, claim 11 is patentable.

B. 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

1. Claims 1 and 12

As noted previously, with respect to claim 3, Nakagawa does not disclose or suggest collecting attribute data from multiple platforms or processing the copyright data into a list or displaying the list as is recited in claims 1 and 12. In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the reference(s), when combined, must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

The IBM disclosure is only related to maintaining or collecting software "inventory" information. The IBM disclosure only explains a "collecting" agent that builds a "list" (inventory) of all the software objects found on a LAN. The IBM Disclosure does not make any reference to an intelligent merging/aggregation of "copyright" information as is described and claimed by Applicant. The IBM Disclosure treats each software object found as an independent object and does not correlate the object to other found objects. There is not teaching in the IBM disclosure related to collecting attribute data as claimed by Applicant.

The IBM Disclosure only relates to "what is installed" and providing a "complete list of all desired software." The IBM Disclosure makes no reference to collecting copyright information or a list of copyright information. At least this feature is also not disclosed by Nakagawa as previously discussed. Thus, the combination of Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure cannot disclose or suggest each feature of Applicant's claims.

The Examiner has not demonstrated and it is submitted that there is no motivation to combine Nakagawa with the IBM Disclosure to achieve what is claimed by Applicant, as is required for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), there must also be some suggestion or

motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the references or combine reference teachings and there must also be a reasonable expectation of success. (See M.P.E.P. §2142).

It is submitted that neither reference provides the requisite suggestion or motivation to modify the references as proposed by the Examiner. The Examiner's proposition that Applicant's claims would be obvious as recited in the claims is not supported by the factual contents of Nakagawa and the IBM Disclosure. The Examiner states that the motivation would arise because the System Administrator will be able to balance the workload across the managed systems in a LAN and be able to detect when problems occur. This is not the problem Applicant is addressing. Applicant's claims are directed to collecting attribute data from multiple platforms, recognizing the copyright data in this attribute data, processing the copyright data into a list and displaying the list of copyright data to a user. There is no motivation to combine Nakagawa with the IBM disclosure to achieve this end.

Nakagawa relates to inspection of copyright information from the HTML documents, i.e. "web pages" not "platforms" as is described and claimed by Applicant. The IBM disclosure relates to an "inventory" of software objects, not acquiring copyright information as is described and claimed by Applicant. Nakagawa is not interested in an "inventory" of copyright information. Nakagawa is only interested in the inspection of the copyright data of HTML documents. In fact, Nakagawa makes no mention of displaying or providing the copyright data to the user and certainly does not teach providing any type of list of "copyright" information. At most, the combination of Nakagawa and the IBM Disclosure would be to provide **an inventory of HTML documents** or even perhaps an inventory of HTML documents for which copyright information has been "inspected." But neither reference relates to acquiring, displaying or providing a list of copyright information for **"platforms"** as is disclosed and claimed

by Applicant. Thus, the legal motivation to combine these references to achieve what is claimed by Applicant, for purposes of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is simply not present.

Thus, claims 1 and 12 should be allowable. Claims 2 and 13-17 should be allowable at least by reason of their respective dependencies.

2. Claim 2

Claim 2 recites that "the system manager comprises memory for storing attribute data collected by the system manager". Neither Nakagawa nor the IBM Disclosure disclose or suggest "storing" the copyright data as recited in claim 2. Nakagawa only "inspects" the copyright and the IBM Disclosure does not discuss copyright data. Thus, claim 2 is not obvious over Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure.

3. Claim 7

Claim 7 depends from claim 3 and should be allowable at least by reason of its dependency. Furthermore, claim 7 recites "collecting the license information from the at least two platforms". The IBM Disclosure does not disclose "collecting" license information. Rather, it discloses the control of "software" for licensing control. Therefore claim 7 is patentable.

4. Claim 13

With respect to claim 13, neither Nakagawa nor the IBM Disclosure relate to "collecting" copyright data as claimed Applicant. Further, claim 13 recites "a memory for storing the software copyright data collected by the system controller". Neither Nakagawa nor the IBM Disclosure disclose or suggest "storing" the copyright data as recited in claim 13. Nakagawa only "inspects" the copyright and the IBM Disclosure does not discuss copyright data.

5. Claim 14

Claim 14 recites that "the memory for storing the software copyright data collected by the system controller further comprises non-volatile memory". There is no disclosure in either Nakagawa or the IBM disclosure to "storing" copyright data as claimed by Applicant. As noted above, Nakagawa only "inspects" the copyright, and does not collecet or store it, and the IBM Disclosure does not discuss copyright data. Thus, claim 14 is patentable.

6. Claim 15

Claim 15 recites that the system manager collects attribute data from multiple platforms simultaneously. Contrary to the Examiner's argument, paragraph [0088] of Nakagawa is absolutely silent as to any collection of attribute data from multiple platforms "simultaneously." Therefore, claim 15 is patentable over the combination of Nakagawa and the IBM Disclosure.

7. Claim 16

Claim 16 recites that the attribute data collected is attribute data stored on the multiple platforms and is passed to the user interface. Neither Nakagawa nor the IBM Disclosure discloses passing the attribute data to the user interface. Nakagawa does not pass the copyright data on, it only inspects it. Thus, claim 16 is patentable.

8. Claim 17

Claim 17 recites that "the list is a list of copyright years for the system in its entirety". The Examiner argues that this limitation is disclosed in paragraph [0050] of Nakagawa. To the contrary, both Nakagawa, and the combination Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure are completely silent with respect to the generation of a "list" of copyright years. Thus, this limitation is also not taught and claim 17 is patentable.

9. Claim 18

Claim 18 recites that the attribute data comprises copyright and license data related to software. The "inspection software" (24) of Nakagawa is simply not the same as "attribute data" that comprises "copyright and license data related to software." The inspection software (24) of Nakagawa is used to inspect the copyright information of the HTML documents [0050]. Applicant's claim recites collecting copyright and license data related to software, which is not disclosed or suggested by the combination of Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure. Applicant is not reciting **inspection software** in this claim. Thus, claim 18 is patentable.

10. Claim 19

Claim 19 recites that "the attribute data is a list of copyright years related to each software object of the system". The combination Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure fail to make any reference whatsoever related to a "list of copyright years" for each "software object." FIG. 5 of Nakagawa is merely a diagram for "explaining" digital data attributes [0040] and makes absolutely no reference at all to copyright years.

11. Claim 20

Claim 20 recites "the multiple platforms comprise document processing apparatus". As discussed previously, the combination Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure makes no reference to the platforms or document processing apparatus recited and claimed by Applicant.

12. Claim 21

Claim 21 recites that "the attribute data comprises copyright data for each software object". Contrary to the Examiner's statement, nowhere in Nakagawa is there any disclosure at all of obtaining the copyright information **related to** the inspection software (24). Nakagawa uses the inspection software (24) to inspect the HTML

documents. Nakagawa is quite obviously **not** collecting the attributes of the inspection software (24) and the inspection software (24) bears no relationship to what is claimed by Applicant in claim 21. Thus, the combination Nakagawa and the IBM disclosure cannot teach this particular claim limitation.

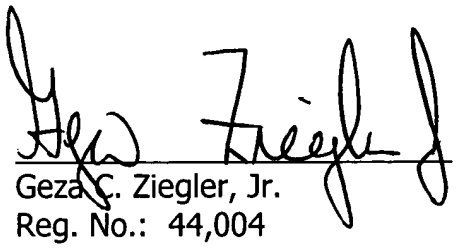
C. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-6 and 8-11 are not anticipated by Nakagawa and claims 1-2, 7 and 12-17 are not obvious over Nakagawa in view of the IBM Disclosure.

A check is enclosed for the one-month extension of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for the appeal brief fee of $500 to Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

Respectfully submitted,



28 JUNE 2004
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VIII. CLAIM APPENDIX

The texts of the claims involved in the appeal are:

1. A multiple platform architecture data reporting system for managing attribute data, the system, embodied on a computer readable medium, comprising:

a system manager, the system being manager being adapted to:

collect attribute data including copyright data pertaining to software from multiple platforms;

recognize the copyright data in the attribute data ; and

process the copyright data into a list of copyright data for the system; and

a user interface connected to the system manager for displaying the collected attribute data in the list to a user.

2. A multiple platform architecture data reporting system as in claim 1 wherein the system manager comprises memory for storing attribute data collected by the system manager.

3. A method for managing attribute data in a multiple platform architecture, the method comprising the steps of:

polling at least two platforms for attribute data;

collecting the attribute data from the at least two platforms in response to the step of polling; and

displaying the collected attribute data on a user display.

4. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of polling at least two platforms for attribute data further comprises the step of automatically polling the at least two platforms during power on of at least one of the at least two platforms.

5. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of polling at least two platforms for attribute data further comprises the step of polling at least one of the at least two platforms when polling is initiated by a user request.

6. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of collecting the attribute data from the at least two platforms in response to the step of polling further comprises the step of collecting the copyright information from the at least two platforms.

7. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of collecting the attribute data from the at least two platforms in response to the step of polling further comprises the step of collecting the license information from the at least two platforms.

8. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of collecting the attribute data from the at least two platforms in response to the step of polling further comprises the step of storing the attribute data in non-volatile memory.

9. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of displaying the collected attribute data on a user display further comprises the step of automatically displaying the attribute data collected from the at least two platforms.

10. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of displaying the collected attribute data on a user display further comprises the step of manually displaying the attribute data collected from the at least two platforms.

11. A method as in claim 3 wherein the step of displaying the collected attribute data on a user display further comprises the step of displaying only non- copyright attribute data collected from the at least two platforms.

12. A software copyright information managing system for managing software copyright data in a multiple platform electronic architecture, the system comprising:

a system controller for collecting the software copyright data from multiple platforms;

a user interface connected to the system controller for displaying the software copyright data from the memory to a user.

13. A software copyright information managing system as in claim 12 wherein the system controller for collecting the software copyright data from multiple platforms further comprises a memory for storing the software copyright data collected by the system controller.

14. A software copyright information managing system as in claim 13 wherein the memory for storing the software copyright data collected by the system controller further comprises non-volatile memory.

15. The multiple platform architecture data reporting system as in Claim 1 wherein the system manager collects attribute data from multiple platforms simultaneously.

16. The multiple platform architecture data reporting system as in Claim 1 wherein the attribute data collected is attribute data stored on the multiple platforms and is passed to the user interface.

17. The system of claim 1 wherein the list is a list of copyright years for the system in its entirety.

18. The system of claim 1 wherein the attribute data comprises copyright and license data related to software.

19. The system of claim 1 wherein the attribute data is a list of copyright years related to each software object of the system.

20. The system of claim 1 wherein the multiple platforms comprise document processing apparatus.

21. The method of claim 3 further comprising the attribute data comprising copyright data for each software object on each platform.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

1. Definition of the term "polling" from www.webopedia.com (http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/p/polling.html).

polling

Last modified: Tuesday, September 25, 2001

(1) Polling is a CAM. In a master/slave scenario, the master queries each slave device in turn as to whether it has any data to transmit. If the slave answers *yes* then the device is permitted to transmit its data. If the slave answers *no* then the master moves on and *polls* the next slave device. The process is repeated continuously. Also see *contention* and *token passing*.

(2) Making continuous requests for data from another device. For example, modems that support polling can call another system and request data.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

Not Applicable.